(b) and (c) The Government has been following a policy of rationalisation of tax structure and widening the tax base as an integral part of its on-going economic reforms. The policy has resulted in lower and fewer tax rates and a more transparent tax system than before. It is proposed to further rationalise the tax system. Reforms in tax structure are undertaken keeping in view the specific requirements of the country.

World Bank assistance

678. SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether he requested at the recent joint annual meeting of the World Bank and the IMF in Washington on 29th September, 2002 for increasing the development assistance to realize the millennium goal of health for all and poverty reduction programmes, as reported in the Economic Times, New Delhi, dated 30th September, 2002;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the total assistance received from the World Bank, IMF and other international lending agencies for various development activities, including health, education, rural development and poverty alleviation, and spent during the last three years, year-wise and state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS {SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the joint annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF, India articulated developing countries' demand for increasing development assistance to realize the millennium goal of health for all and poverty reduction.The stand was based on the assertion that since the Bank has increased resources, it could spare more resources, so that the developing countries need not resort to private capital for development in the basic sectors of health and poverty alleviation.

(c) Details of total assistance received from the World Bank and other international development agencies sectorally is at Statement-I and the state-wise and year-wise details are at Statement-ll.

Statement I

Sector-wise utilisation of external assistance

Amount {in Rs. Crores)

SI.	Seclor	2000-01 No	2001-02	2002-03/ upto Oct.)
1.	Agriculture & Rural Development	838-49	938.83	431.36
2.	Energy Sector-Coal	52.24	61.53	8.83
3.	Energy Sector-Power	2324,48	1995.00	900.67
4.	Energy Sector-Non Conventional Energy	122.92	197.48	10.34
5.	Environment and Forestry	646.77	429.63	234.10
6.	Fertiliser	0,00	45.47	34.62
7.	Industry and Finance	15.42	10.73	5.28
8.	Infrastructure Sector-Railway	48,18	676.24	49.02
9.	Infrastructure Sector-Road	1233.74	1335.66	737.91
10.	Infrastructure Sector-Telecommurrication	16.67	2.36	0.18
11.	Infrastructure Sector-Port	0.00	24.41	0.51
12.	Infrastructure Sector-General	194.95	36.26	25.78
13.	Others	187.35	207.12	497.13
14.	Social	2536.10	2743.60	1245.31
15.	Structural Adj. Sector	0.00	2781.55	0.00
16.	Urban Development	610.39	924.09	449.22
17.	Water Resources Management	1009.64	1088.53	860.44
	TOTAL:	9837.35	13498.47	5490.68

Statement 11

Utilisation of External Assistance for Various States in tfie Years 2000-01,2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto Oct.)

Amount {in Rs. Crores)

SI.	State	2000-01 No.	2001-02	2002-03 (uptO Oct.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1620.29	2830.53	1127.53
2.	Assam	109.45	123.86	18.53
3.	Bihar	58.11	0.00	0,00
4.	Chhattisgarh	4.80	8.00	244
5.	Delhi	0.00	0,00	0,50
6.	Gujarat	550.17	463:61	273.56
7.	Haryana	284.52	292.88	35.93
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.88	10.97	12.91
9.	Karnataka	353.26	1615.92	199,94
10.	Kerala	30.96	23.95	88,42
11.	Madhya Pradesh	124.91	484.78	64.94
12.	Maharashtra	192.10	272.78	96,94
13.	Manipur	9.78	4.10	0,23
14.	Meghalaya	B.18	43.08	5.40
15.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	18,92
16	Multistates	612.28	585.22	323,00
17.	Orissa	417.69	300.46	148.07
18.	Others	6.97	1.61	1.07
19.	Punjab	80.65	68.97	19,84
20.	Rajasthan	178.95	93.93	79.72
21.	Sikkim	0.90	0.06	1.24
22.	Tamil Nadu	537.81	286.25	158,30
23.	Uttar Pradesh	535.77	657.51	303.61
24.	West Bengal	434.41	429.86	206,53
	TOTAL:	6163.84	8598.33	3187.27